

REMARKS

Status of pending applications and issued patents

The Applicants wish to draw the Examiner's attention to the Applicant's related applications which are listed in the attached Appendix A. Many of the applications have already issued as patents. One or more office actions have already issued in many of these applications.

Status of the claims

Claims 433-461 remain pending in this application. Claims 435, 437, and 446 were amended to correct for typographical errors. No new matter has been introduced into the application as a result of the present amendment.

Double patenting rejection

Turning now to the Office action, the Examiner rejected claims 433, 435-437, 440-442, and 461 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 31-42 of U.S. Patent No. 6,506,564. The Applicants have attached a Terminal Disclaimer and submit that the obviousness-type rejection has now been overcome.

Conclusion

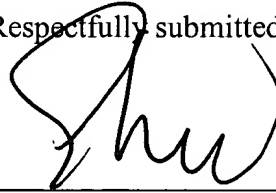
The Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for an allowance. A Notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested and a favorable determination is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned representative if the Examiner believes that this would be helpful in expediting the prosecution of this application.

Dated: Aug. 12, 2004

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Emily Miao', written over a horizontal line.

Emily Miao
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